

At a time when Sikh Americans most need to support those affected by the tragedy, our energies are being spent on protecting our families and children.

We pray that this kind of misplaced racial and ethnic victimization – of Sikhs, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims, Hindus and people of all faiths and colors – does not continue. The Sikh American community invites all Americans to join them in bringing about mutual understanding and deep respect for all people.

We open our places of worship and our community centers across the nation to anyone seeking solace in this time of penetrating sorrow.



President George W. Bush meets with members of Sikh community in the White House - September 26, 2001.

We thank the President for his inspiring words during his address to Congress and the world on Sept 20. He recognized that people of all faiths share in the grief and want to share in the rebuilding. He reminded Americans that this country's ethnic diversity is key to its strength.

**God Bless America!**

## ***GOD BLESS AMERICA***



***We honor all police officers,  
firefighters and emergency  
personnel who have risked their  
lives to save and help others.***



To help, contact  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

Please pass this along



**UNITED WE STAND**

**“Recognize ye all human  
race as one”**

Tenth Guru of the Sikhs

***SIKH AMERICANS***

The American psyche has been shaken by the terrible tragedy of September 11<sup>th</sup>. In this time of pain we pray for all the victims and our hearts go out to their families. Sikh Americans stand resolutely in support of our Government to bring those responsible to justice.

We express our deep gratitude for the heroic efforts of the Police, Firefighters and Rescue personnel and countless other volunteers who have risked and sacrificed their lives to save others.

Since Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, Sikhs, like other Americans, have been grappling with grief and fear. But their fear is not only about another assault from outside. Many Sikhs have become victims of hate crimes because of their appearance. Balbir Singh Sodhi, a Sikh American, was killed on Sept. 15



Balbir Singh Sodhi  
1949 - 2001

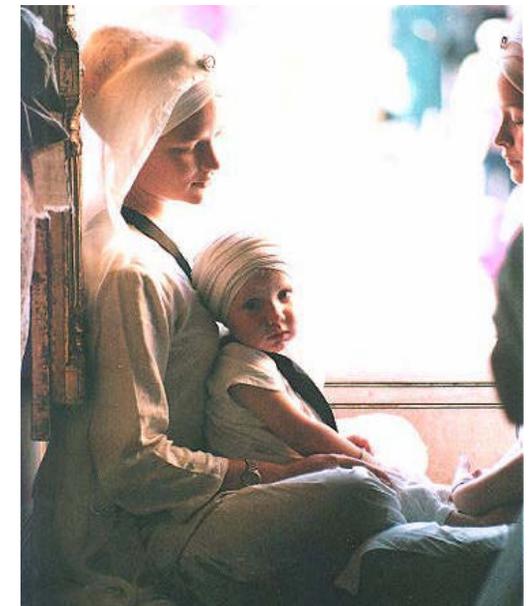
as a result of mistaken identity. **Across America, the only people who wear turbans are followers of the Sikh religion. Sikhs are from**

**Northern India (Punjab) and are neither Hindus nor Muslims.**

***Sikhism** - The word Sikh (pronounced seek) means 'disciple' or 'learner.' The Sikh religion was founded in Northern India in the fifteenth century by Guru Nanak Dev Ji and is distinct from Islam and Hinduism. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means as well as sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Sikhism rejects caste and class systems and emphasizes service to humanity.*

***Turbans** are worn to cover our long hair and with respect to God. Sikhs have unshorn hair, beards and moustaches. The Sikh faith teaches us the humanitarian principles of freedom, equality, and justice - the same principles this great democracy is founded on. There are about 22 million Sikhs in the world. Sikhs have been in the United States for over 100 years.*

*Sikhism recognizes the universal truths that underlie all human endeavors, religions and belief systems. The universal nature of the Sikh way of life reaches out to people of all faiths and cultural backgrounds, encouraging us to see beyond our differences and to work together for world peace and harmony.*



**“Truth is the highest virtue but higher still is truthful living”**

Guru Nanak Dev Ji (First Sikh Guru )

www.sikhnet.com  
www.sikhcommunications.com  
Email: sikhamericans@yahoo.com